

Please amend the claims as follows, by amending claims 1, 9, 18, 25, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, and 58, canceling claims 10-16, and adding claims 59-68 as follows.

1. (currently amended)        A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent comprising:  
                                 a cylindrical sleeve having a first end and a second end;  
                                 a latticed network disposed between said first end and said second end of said cylindrical sleeve;  
                                 said latticed network formed from a plurality of monofilaments, wherein at least two of said monofilaments are braided in an alternating braid pattern;  
                                 said plurality of monofilaments comprises at least one biocompatible polymer, and said cylindrical sleeve having an controllable in vivo lifetime of at least two weeks;  
                                 and  
                                 said self-expanding stent being annealed, and gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 35 kGy to 75 kGy.
2. (original)    The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 wherein said plurality of monofilaments ranges from 30 to 48 monofilaments.
3. (original)    The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 2 wherein said plurality of braided monofilaments comprise 40 monofilaments.
4. (original)    The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 further including at least a single strand shift between each adjacent monofilament.
5. (original)    The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 further including an as-braided braid-crossing angle ranging from approximately 100° to 150°.
6. (original)    The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 further including an as-braided braid-crossing angle of approximately 110°.

7. (original) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 further including a post-annealed braid-crossing angle ranging from approximately 125° to 150°.

8. (original) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1, wherein said braid pattern is selected from the group consisting of under-one-over-one, under-one-over-two, under-one-over-three, under-two-over-two, under-two-over-three, and under-three-over-three.

9. (currently amended) A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent according to claim 1, wherein comprising:

~~a cylindrical sleeve having a first end and a second end;~~

~~a latticed network disposed between said first end and said second end of said cylindrical sleeve;~~

said latticed network is formed from a plurality of monofilaments helically wound about a longitudinal axis of said cylindrical sleeve, wherein approximately one-half of said plurality of monofilaments are wound in a clockwise direction and approximately one-half of said plurality of monofilaments are wound in a counter-clockwise direction, and said plurality of monofilaments are braided in an alternating braid pattern;

~~said plurality of braided monofilaments comprises at least one biocompatible polymer, and said cylindrical sleeve having a controllable in vivo lifetime; and~~

said self-expanding stent being annealed, and gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately ~~35~~ 50 kGy to 75 kGy.

10-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent comprising:

a tubular sheath having a first end and a second end; and

a fenestrated walled surface disposed between said first end and said second end, said fenestrated walled surface comprised of at least one biocompatible polymer, said fenestrated walled surface comprising molded or cut openings,

said fenestrated walled surface having a controllable in vivo lifetime; and

said self-expanding stent being annealed and gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 35 kGy to 75 kGy.

19. (original) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 18 wherein said at least one biocompatible polymer is polydioxanone.

20. (original) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 18 wherein said tubular sheath has an inner diameter ranging from 12 mm to 18 mm.

21. (original) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 18 wherein said tubular sheath has an inner diameter of approximately 15 mm.

22. (previously presented) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 25 said tubular sheath having an inner diameter ranging from 12 mm to 18 mm.

23. (previously presented) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 25 wherein said tubular sheath has an inner diameter of approximately 15 mm.

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent comprising:

a tubular sheath having a first end and a second end; and

a fenestrated walled surface disposed between said first end and said second end,  
said fenestrated walled surface comprising molded or cut openings,

said fenestrated walled surface comprised of polydioxanone, wherein said tubular sheath has ~~an controllable~~ in vivo lifetime of at least 2 weeks; ~~and~~  
wherein said self-expanding stent is annealed.

26-49. (cancelled)

50. (currently amended) The bioresorbable, self-expanding stent of claim 1 having an controllable in vivo lifetime of from at least two weeks to six weeks.

51. (currently amended) A method for using a bioresorbable, self-expanding stent comprising:

disposing said bioresorbable, self-expanding stent in a delivery system, said bioresorbable, self-expanding stent having a controlled in vivo lifetime of at least two weeks;

inserting said delivery system into a constricted region within a body canal;  
deploying said bioresorbable stent into said constricted region; and  
allowing said bioresorbable stent to self-expand and restore patency of said constricted region;

said self-expanding stent being annealed, and gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 35 kGy to 75 kGy.

52. (currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent of claim 1 which exhibits a bilateral self-expansion force of 6N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state.

53. (currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent of claim 1 wherein the urethral stent exhibits a bilateral compression resistance of 8N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half of a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state.

54. (currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent of claim 1 wherein the urethral stent exhibits a radial self-expansion force of ~~[[4N]]~~ 6N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state.

55. (currently amended) [[The]] A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent of claim 1 wherein the urethral stent exhibits a radial compression resistance of 10N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state.

56. (previously presented) The stent of claim 1 wherein the alternating braid pattern comprises an under-two over-two pattern.

57. (previously presented) The stent of claim 1 comprising poly-L-lactide.

58. (currently amended) A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent according to claim 1 comprising:

~~a cylindrical sleeve having a first end and a second end;~~

~~a latticed network disposed between said first end and said second end of said cylindrical sleeve;~~

~~said latticed network formed from a plurality of monofilaments, wherein at least two of said monofilaments are braided in an alternating braid pattern;~~

~~said plurality of monofilaments comprising at least one biocompatible polymer, and said cylindrical sleeve having a controllable in vivo lifetime as caused by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 35 kGy to 75 kGy;~~

~~—— said self-expanding stent being annealed, and  
sterilized with ethylene oxide.~~

59. (new) The stent of claim 1 gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 50 kGy to 75 kGy.

60. (new) A bioresorbable, self-expanding stent comprising:

a cylindrical sleeve having a first end and a second end, and openings along the sleeve;

the bioresorbable stent comprising a bioresorbable polymer,  
the stent having an in vivo lifetime of at least 2 weeks,  
the stent being annealed,  
the stent being gamma-irradiated by exposure to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of approximately 35 kGy to 75 kGy,

61. (new) The stent of claim 60 exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 50 kGy to 75 kGy.

62. (new) A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent according to claim 60 which exhibits a bilateral self-expansion force of 6N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state.

63. (new) A bioresorbable, self-expanding urethral stent of claim 60 wherein the stent exhibits a radial self-expansion force of 6N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state.

64. (new) A urethral stent according to claim 60, wherein the stent:

comprises a polymer selected from poly-L-lactide and polydioxanone,

exhibits a bilateral self-expansion force of 6N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state,

exhibits a radial self-expansion force of 6N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state, and

is exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 50 kGy to 75 kGy.

65. (new) A bioresorbable, polymeric, self-expanding urethral stent that has been annealed and exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 35 kGy to 75 kGy, and that exhibits a bilateral self-expansion force of 6N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state.

66. (new) A bioresorbable, polymeric, self-expanding urethral stent that has been annealed and exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 35 kGy to 75 kGy, and that exhibits a radial self-expansion force of 6N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state.

67. (new) A bioresorbable, polymeric, self-expanding urethral stent that has been annealed and exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 35 kGy to 75 kGy, and that exhibits a bilateral compression resistance of 8N or more in a compressed state where, in the compressed state, the stent has a diameter that is half of a diameter, or less, of the stent in an expanded state.

68. (new) A bioresorbable, polymeric, self-expanding urethral stent that has been annealed and exposed to gamma irradiation in an amount in the range of 35 kGy to 75 kGy, and that exhibits a radial compression resistance of 10N or more in a constrained state where, in the constrained state, the stent has a diameter that is less than or equal to half of a diameter of the stent in an expanded state.